(b) the target laid down for the augmentation of irrigation potential in the State during 1990-91; and

(c) the extent to which the target has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) As per Land Use Statistics (1987-88 provisional), an area of 42,86,000 hectares is unirrigated.

(b) and (c): Against the target for creation of irrigation potential of 3,90,000 hectares in the State during 1990-91, the anticipated achievement is reported to be 4,88,000 hectares.

[*English*]

Profit Earned by Madras Refineries Ltd.

2359. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras Refineries Ltd. have been making huge profits and paying dividends to its employees as well as to the Government;

(b) if so, the actual profits earned during the last three years, year wise; and

(c) the dividends paid to the Union Government and its employees, separately during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Dividends are paid only to the two shareholders viz. Government of India and National Iranian Oil Company.

(b) The actual profit after tax earned during the last three years is as under:-

	(Rs. in crores)
1988-89	51.28
1989-90	50.23
1990-91	50.55

(c) The dividend paid to the Government of India during the last three years is as under:

	(Rs. in crores)
1988-89	20.28
1989-90	20.28
1990-91	20.28

Drilling Operation at Cochin High

2360. PROF. K.V.THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the drilling operation in the Arabian Sea of the West of Cochin;

(b) the companies that are doing the drilling operation at Cochin High; and

(c) the terms and conditions of these drilling companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) So far, three wells have been drilled in the area by ONGC.

(b) No company is doing drilling operations at Cochin High.